

State Injury Indicators



Percentage of High School Students Who Never or Rarely Wore a Seat Belt When Riding in a Car Driven by Someone Else

Category:	Motor Vehicle Indicators
Demographic Group:	Students in grades 9–12.
Numerator:	Respondents in grades 9–12 who reported never or rarely wearing a seat belt when riding in a car driven by someone else.
Denominator:	Total respondents in grades 9–12.
Measures of Frequency:	Annual prevalence.
Period for Case Definition:	Not specified.
Background:	Safety belts are 45%--60% effective in reducing deaths and 50%--65% effective in reducing moderate-to-critical injuries.*
Limitations of Indicator:	Self-reported data only represents a small portion of the overall burden of injury. An evaluation of risk for these injuries does not present a complete picture of all injuries.
Data Resources:	Youth Risk Behavior Surveillance System (YRBSS).
Limitations of Data Resources:	As with all self-reported sample surveys, YRBSS data might be subject to systematic error resulting from noncoverage (e.g., no participation by certain schools), nonresponse (e.g., refusal to participate in the survey or to answer specific questions), or measurement (e.g., social desirability or recall bias).
Healthy People 2010 Objectives:	15.9: Increase use of safety belts
CDC's Health Protection Goals:	Healthy People in Every Stage of Life: Achieve Healthy Independence Healthy People in Healthy Places: Healthy Communities Healthy People in Healthy Places: Healthy Travel and Recreation

*National Highway Traffic Safety Administration. Traffic safety facts 1999: occupant protection. Washington, DC: US Department of Transportation, National Highway Traffic Safety Administration, 2000; publication no. DOT HS 809 090.